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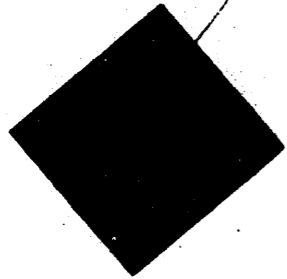
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EASTERN

F.O.
371



1947

PALESTINE

File No. 48

pp. 8057 - 8275

CLOSED
UNTIL
1978

61825

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

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267

E

E 8057

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 8057/48/31

FROM

R. D. Leonard

No.

Legation

Dated

Helsinki

Received in Registry

206.

28 Aug 47
2 RXT

Protest against treatment of Jews.
Transmit copy of letter from E. Berlingers.
Protesting against sending of Jews to
Germany.

Last Paper.

8015

(Minutes.)

References.

(Print.)

61825

(How disposed of.)

opt. Chambers ::

Amman
Athens
Bagdad
Beirut
Belgrade
Berlin
Brussels
Bucharest
Budapest
Cairo
Copenhagen

PTO

(Action completed.)

Y. E. 12/9

(Index.)

29/1/47

Next Paper.

80159

I have no doubt that similar protests are being received by our Missions in any many parts of the world. I suggest that we might let them have the text of your standard letter to individuals and organisations in the U.K. They could then use this whenever they thought that the authors of the protest were amenable to argument. I submit draft letter to those Chambers who received our original telegrams of guidance on the "President Winfield" (E 7488/48/6) with the addition of Helsinki.

Please see also E 8055 and E 8059

John
(T.E. CABLE)

13 Sept. 2 2/4

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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3

Etid-

Damascus
 Hageel
 Helsinki
 Ladda
 Lisbon
 Madrid
 Moscow
 U.S. Del, New York
 Paris
 Prague
 Rome
 Sofia
 Stockholm
 Warsaw
 W. Lond.

Sept 9th

Sept. Embassy

also Sept 20

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4					
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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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N 206.

The British Chargé d'Affaires at Helsinki
~~His Majesty's~~ ~~xx~~

presents his compliments to
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British Legation,
Helsinki.

E 8057

...28th August 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
One copy of letter from E. Berglinger, Judiska Församling arnas i Finland, Helsingfors, addressed to the British Minister.	Protest against sending of Jews to Germany.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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10
COPY/

JUDISKA FÖRSAMLINGARNAS I FINLAND

CENTRALRAD

HELSINGFORS

Malmgatan 26. Telefon 35 336

The the British Minister in Helsingfors.

We express our fright and our sorrow about the conclusion of The British Government to bring back the 4,500 Jewish refugees from the "President Warfield" to Germany, the country which is drenched of Jewish blood.

We call for that these refugees immediately are sent to Palestine.

JUDISKA FÖRSAMLINGARNAS i
FINLAND CENTRALRAD.

(E. Berglinger)

Overrabbin in Finland.

(L. Wainstein)

Chairman.

5

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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Registry
No. E 8057/48/31

J.E.C.

OUT FILE OC

9 left

Draft.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

To / blanchery at:

- AMMAN X
- ATHENS E
- BAGDAD E
- BEIRUT X
- BELGRADE X
- BERLIN
- BRUSSELS E
- BUCHAREST X
- BUDAPEST X
- CAIRO X
- DAMASCUS X
- HELSEINGFORS X
- HELSEINGFORS X
- JEDDA X
- LISBON X
- MADRID E
- MOSCOW
- PARIS
- U.K. Delegation NEW YORK
- PARIS E
- PRAGUE X
- ROME X
- SOFIA X
- STOCKHOLM
- WARSAW E
- WASHINGTON E

Dear Blanchery,

We imagine that you have received numerous appeals against H.M.G.'s decision to send to the British Zone of Germany the 4500 Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield" who refused to disembark at Port del Bouc, and we imagine that you may also have had your share of those ~~been similarly favoured.~~

2. In those cases where we considered that the individuals or organizations making the ~~appeal~~ ^{appeal} were at all amenable to argument ~~we have sent a letter~~ ^{has been sent} in

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2			

Reference: FO 371/61825

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7 in reply. ~~We are not, however,~~
~~answering protests from confirmed~~
~~Zionists. You may wish~~
~~to have the text of~~
~~this reply and to make~~
~~use of it as and when~~
~~you consider it advisable.~~

~~3 The text of our~~
~~reply is as follows:~~

~~[here insert from (A) to~~
~~(B) of attached letter~~

Yours ever
Eastern Dept.

JB Sept. 2

on the lines of
the enclosed text.
You ^{may} find this
useful in cases
where you feel
called upon to
answer responsible
appeals or
inquiries on this
subject.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

(E 8057/48/31)

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE. S.W.1

9th September, 1947.

Ma

8

Restricted.

Dear Chancery,

We have received numerous appeals against His Majesty's Government's decision to send to the British Zone of Germany the 4,500 Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield" who refused to disembark at Port de Bouc, and we imagine that you may also have had your share of these.

2. In those cases where we considered that the individuals or organizations making the appeal were at all amenable to argument, a letter has been sent in reply on the lines of the enclosed text. You may find this useful in cases where you feel called upon to answer responsible appeals or enquiries on this subject.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

Chanceries at:

Amman
Athens
Bagdad
Beirut
Belgrade
Berlin
Brussels
Bucharest
Budapest
Cairo
Copenhagen
Damascus
The Hague
Helsingfors
Jedda
Lisbon
Madrid
Moscow
United Kingdom Delegation, New York
Paris.
Prague
Rome
Sofia
Stockholm
Warsaw
Washington

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FOREIGN OFFICE. S.W.1

(F 7770/48/31)

At the risk of repeating much that was included in the two official communiques issued in London on the 21st and 23rd August on this subject, I should like to explain briefly the facts of the present case. On the 18th July 4,554 Jews were intercepted on board the s.s. PRESIDENT WARFIELD in an attempt to enter Palestine illegally. They had left France with forged Colombian visas of destination, in contravention of the International Conventions for the Safety of Life at Sea and Load Lines. This ship of under 2,000 tons was far too small to carry anything like 4,500 people in safety, let alone in proper conditions of sanitation. The French authorities had instructed the ship not to leave, but she cut her hawsers.

The case of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD represented a particularly flagrant example of the activities of those responsible for organising the Jewish illegal immigration traffic. As you will be aware, His Majesty's Government and the Government of Palestine have for some time been gravely embarrassed in their exercise of the Palestine Mandate and in the maintenance of peace and internal security in Palestine by this Jewish illegal immigrant traffic. They are bound to enforce the present immigration quota of 1,500 a month for Jews and they would have no justification, in the present interim period before the United Nations make a recommendation regarding the future of Palestine, for altering this quota. Immigration policy is of cardinal importance to the Palestine problem and all concerned should await the decision of the United Nations in this regard. Nevertheless, the organisers of the illegal immigrant traffic are at present trying to exceed the quota with the object of upsetting the balance of population in the country, and are thereby aggravating an already tense and delicate situation which has led to bloodshed between Arabs and Jews.

In view of the exceptional size of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD contingent and of the illicit manner in which they left France, His Majesty's Government had no alternative but to arrange for the return of the illegal immigrants to their country of embarkation, France. It had become evident that the policy of sending illegal immigrants to camps in Cyprus, where they qualify for inclusion in the legal immigration quota to Palestine, had only served to encourage the stream of illegal immigrants which has for months been flowing from Eastern Europe via countries with a Mediterranean seaboard. It is noteworthy that a large part of this stream consists, not of refugees, but of Jews who have been encouraged by the organisers of the traffic to leave their homes in Eastern Europe. The organisers select the immigrants with little regard to humanitarian considerations. The older people, perhaps with relatives in Palestine who would qualify on those grounds are regularly passed over in favour of young men and women and expectant mothers (the latter most unsuited to face the appalling conditions of overcrowding in which they are sent to Palestine). Parents are encouraged to send their children

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Reference: **FO** 371/61825

on the understanding that they are to be legal immigrants. A case has just arisen where a number of Hungarian parents have asked to have back their children from amongst the PRESIDENT WARFIELD party when it arrives in the British Zone; they were misled by the organisers of the traffic to think that their children were to be admitted on the legal quota.

To revert to the events following the return of the 4,500 illegal immigrants to France. The British transports were left at Port de Bouc for three weeks in the hope that their passengers would accept the French offer of hospitality and disembark in France. When it became clear that the illegal immigrants would not agree to land and that the French Government would not constrain them to do so, it was necessary to find a destination for them under British jurisdiction. In the light of the general situation in regard to the illegal immigrant traffic which I have briefly explained above, His Majesty's Government were quite clear that it would be undesirable to send the illegal immigrants back to Cyprus. They considered a number of destinations in British Colonial territory but in no case was it possible to arrange adequate accommodation at short notice for such a large number of people. It was therefore reluctantly decided to send the illegal immigrants temporarily to the British Zone on Germany, the only place where accommodation could be provided at short notice, and to continue to press the French Government to receive them back through the British Zone.

There has been much criticism of the decision to send these Jews to Germany. For the reasons I have given above, no alternative destination was available. It should be remembered, moreover, that this territory is administered by His Majesty's Government and that the illegal immigrants will be looked after by the British military administration and not by Germans. Moreover, as you will clearly see, there was absolutely no need for them to go to Germany at all. They have spent three weeks waiting off a French port with every facility and encouragement to go ashore, both from the French and British side. They, and those who inspire them, have chosen instead to make a political point of refusing to land, thereby causing His Majesty's Government to send them to a destination which is unwelcome to everyone concerned. It is, moreover, the hope of His Majesty's Government that after their arrival in Hamburg it will be possible for the illegal immigrants to pass through Germany into France.

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

20th September, 1947.

OUT FILE

(E 8057/48/31)

Restricted

Dear Chancery,

We have received numerous appeals against His Majesty's Government's decision to send to the British Zone of Germany the 4,500 Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield" who refused to disembark at Port de Bouc, and we imagine that you may also have had your share of these.

2. In those cases where we considered that the individuals or organizations making the appeal were at all amenable to argument, a letter has been sent in reply on the lines of the enclosed text. You may find this useful in cases where you feel called upon to answer responsible appeals or enquiries on this subject.

Yours ever,
EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Delora.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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268

1947

E

E 8059

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

E8059/48/31

FROM

Laurence
Gallies

No.

237A

Dated

237 A

Received
in Registry

Aug 27

Sept 2

Protet against treatment of Jews
Refer also despatch 235 (E 6836/4/31, 1946)
transmits at request of Jewish Committee, Bolo
and Franksheim, protest against treatment
of Jews as "President Weinfeld"

Last Paper.

8057

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

? Standard reply

[Signature]
L.J.E (ABLE)
3/7

~~British newspaper print~~

Manuscript.

Now see E 8057

H. J. Beins
Sept. 2
[Signature]
2/4

(Action
completed.)

[Signature]
7/2/49

(Index)

[Signature]
28/1/48

Next Paper.

8068

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6	

References:

EO 371/61825

To the British government!

Touched with grief and sorrow about the situation of our brethren, on board of the "President Warfield", which ~~arrived~~^{arrived} according to the arrangement of the British Government, we join together with whole jewish world in the protest against the deportation.

To return our unhappy brethren to a country, in which millions of their relatives found a tragic death, is a shame to the British nation, which fought against Hitlers tyranny.

For the sake of ~~rightness~~^{rights} and in solidarity^{with} with our unhappy brethren, we are protesting against the behavior~~of~~ of the British Government, and pray to allow this jews to return and enter into their jewish homeland, which was promised them in the Balfour declaration.

O s l o, the 26.august 1947

The jewish community of Oslo and Trondheim

Det Mosaiske Trossamfund
H. M. Koritzinsky
H. M. KORITZINSKY
s.d. menighetsforstander

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1947

425

31

Palestine
EASTERN

E8068 / G
= 22 SEP 1947

15

E8068/48/9

French reception of President
Worfield news.

Mr Duff Cooper
Paris
850

Dated 1 Sept
Received 2 Sept.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

E8051

Public
(S.E.-CABLE)

References.

2/9

E8050/48/9

JB Sept. 2

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P ✓ 3 Sept

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

2F 4/9

[Handwritten mark]

Next Paper.

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Reference:

EO 371 / 61825

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E

Green 16
E8068

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

13 SEP 1947

Mr. Duff Cooper

No. 850

D. 5.50 p.m. 1st September, 1947

1st September, 1947 R. 6.05 p.m. 1st September, 1947

Repeated to Washington
Jerusalem
Berlin

8 8 8 8

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Your telegram No. 1960.

Jewish illegal immigration.

United States Embassy had received instructions to support this approach but they have been asked to suspend action pending consideration of my telegram No. 847.

Foreign Office please pass to Washington, Jerusalem and Berlin all Immediate as my telegrams Nos. 185, 40 and 129 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington and Berlin.
Copies sent to Telegraph Section of Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

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Group..... *FO*

Class *371*

Piece *61825*

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transferred to PRO Safe Room*

E8069/48/31

and closed until..... *1998*

*delete as necessary

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FO 371 / 61825

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427 1947
31

Palestine

EASTERN

EROYO/G

= 2 SEP

E 8070/48/G

President Warfield

17

lost Sweedap
W'lon
4786
dated 1 Sept
Received 2 Sept.

Last Paper.

E 8069

(Minutes.)

Huber
(S.E. CABLE)
2/9

References.

E 8050/42/G
E 8014/48/G.

Our Embassy in Paris are in
close touch with US Embassy on
this and I with Mr Lewis
Jones of the US Embassy here

JB Sept. 2

*Sp... office info
not available*

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P. ✓ 3 Sept

(Action completed.)

25/4/9

(Index.)

14/9

Next Paper.

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EO 371/61825

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E E8070 18

Cypher OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2 ^{2 SEP 1947}

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel
No. 4786

D. 12.24 p.m. 1st September 1947.

1st September 1947.

R. 5.40 p.m. 1st September 1947.

Repeated to Paris (Most Immediate)
Jerusalem

MOST IMMEDIATE

rrrrrr

E/G

Your telegrams Nos. 8921 and 8922.

Jewish illegal immigration.

State Department have sent instructions to United States Embassy in Paris reiterating those reported in my telegram No. 4777 and requesting United States Ambassador to suggest to French Government that the landing of these people at a channel port might be one way of easing situation.

2. In view of Paris telegram No. 847 to you we have now informed State Department that some practical difficulties are still being discussed and have asked them to instruct United States Ambassador to concert with British Embassy in Paris before speaking to French Government again. They promised to telegraph accordingly at once.

Foreign Office please pass Most Immediate to Paris as my telegram No. 203.

[Repeated to Paris Most Immediate].

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2 SEP 1947

428 1947

Palustrine

E8046 / G
2 SEP 1947

EASTERN

E8046/42/9

Marseille
Loured
Sib

Dated 26 Aug
Received 2 Sept.

19
Paris
Porde Bone: details of
final stage of operation &
recommendations for the future
sent to Mr Crossley, Paris.

Last Paper.

E8040

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

- 1) Mr Nigham C.O. 3/9
- 2) Lt Col Chatteris 1104 W.O.
- 2. Mr Kenise M/Trans from Mr Cable 5th Sept
- 3) Mr Nigham C.O. 5th Sept.

(Minutes.)

This is a very interesting letter. I think we might draw the attention of the W.O. to para. 3, of German (Refugee) Dept. to para. 5 and of News Dept. to para. 7.

Copies to: C.O. (Mr. Higham)
W.O. (Lt. Col. Chatteris)

German (Refugee) Dept. (all)
News Dept. ✓

J.P. Cable
C.S.E. CABLE
3/9

W.O. & My. of Transport re para. 3

JB Sept. 3

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25/10/47

W.H.

Next Paper.

Action has been taken in accordance with the suggestion in para. 5.

Y. Allering
9/9/47

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Ref para 7, it is not now possible to know any light on the source of "American Forces Programme's" information.

D.I. Demmett 13/9

~~16/9~~

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24
British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.

26th August, 1947.

Secret.
S16.

F8076

= 2 SEP 1947

With the compliments
of
Acting Consul-General.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London.

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

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British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.

22

26th August, 1947.

SEK/gw Secret. 816

By Bag.

3 cp/se

Dear Coulson,

We have kept the Foreign Office and the Embassy informed by daily telegram of the Jewish immigrant situation at Port de Bouc. The object of this letter is to give you some details of the final stage of the operation and to make some recommendations for the future, as I am not optimistic enough to think that we have finished with the traffic.

2- I went on board the "RUNDYBIDE PARK" with Ashcroft and Hallett shortly before 11 a.m. on August 21st and discussed with O.G. Troops the best way of making the announcement known to all the passengers. We explained the position to the "leaders" who then went away and passed the message on to the passengers. (This is the usual method whereby Gregson makes announcements to the passengers). While we were explaining the position to the leaders, leaflets, which we had prepared in English and in French, were scattered in each hold. To make quite certain that the announcement reached everyone, I had it chalked up in German on a big blackboard which was hung up on the bridge out of reach but in full sight of all the passengers. The same method was adopted in the other two transports.

3- I suggest that transports used for conveying illegal immigrants should be fitted with a loud-speaker in each hold. Not only would this simplify the making of announcements, but would provide those in charge with a ready means of counteracting hostile propaganda. There should also be one officer on board able to make announcements in Hebrew and Yiddish.

4- As I had to leave early for Port-de-Bouc, Gallagher made the decision known to the Préfecture at 10.30 a.m. on the 21st. They seemed rather surprised that such short notice had been given to them, but all the same announced their willingness to send a representative on board to renew the French Government's offer to readmit the immigrants to France. Later on they telephoned to say that they could take no action pending instructions from Paris, and added that the Préfet objected to the statement in our communiqué (see §2 of Foreign Office telegram to Berlin No. 2410 of August 19th) that the immigrants had obtained forged documents in France. At all events Paris acted pretty quickly for at 1 a.m. on the 22nd August the Préfecture telephoned to me to say they were sending a Sous-Préfet to Port-de-Bouc to make an announcement at 8 a.m. on board the transports. They read the announcement to me over the telephone; it was simply to the effect that the offer previously made by the French Government to the Jews was still open. I gave the Sous-Préfet a letter of introduction to the O.G. Troops and saw him off. Later on in the morning I received from Gregson via H.M.S. "PROSEE" a laconic signal saying "Richardot got on board and had finished by 1100. Reaction absolutely nil".

5- I see from Foreign Office telegram to Berlin No. 2385 of 16th August, §2, that the intention is to press the French Government to accept the Jews back by train from the British Zone. You

John Coulson Esq., C.M.G.,
British Embassy,
Paris.

will/...

Copy to Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371/61825

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will recall that when you were here the French wanted to make sure that no one came ashore who did not leave in the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" and that we obtained the necessary particulars to assure them on this point. (Please see Marseilles telegram No. 106 to Foreign Office repeated to Paris No. 78 and Foreign Office telegram to Marseilles No. 103 of 30th July repeated to Paris). Doubtless the French will raise this objection again, and it seems to me that it will be difficult to satisfy them without, say, inviting the French Consul-General at Hamburg (if there is one) to be present when their numbers and identity are checked on arrival.

6- In connection with the refusal of the Jews to land in France, one British officer on board, who is supposed to know something of what goes on inside their heads, said to me that they would prefer any British destination to landing in France. This preference is doubtless not due to any particular love for us or our institutions. Perhaps they think we shall give them a square deal when the immigration permits to Palestine are distributed: perhaps they think that once they are on British soil they have negotiated the first hurdle in their journey to the Promised Land. If there is any truth in the above, it makes it all the more necessary for us to press the French to accept the principle of "refoulement" and to satisfy themselves as to the validity of the visas for the country of ultimate destination, so that we can ship illegal immigrants to a non-British destination.

7- One final point which may already be known to you:- When I got on board the "RUNNYMEDE PARK" on the morning of the 21st, the O.C. Troops told me that on the evening before the news had "broken" over the "American Forces Programme", which had announced that the Jews were to be given 48 hours to decide whether to stop in France or go to Germany.

8- As I hope to be back on leave by the time this letter is typed, it will come to you over Gallagher's signature.

Yours ever,

F.G.K. GALLAGHER

(for S.E. KAY)

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E8076/48/G J.E.C.

Draft.

~~Top Secret.~~
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

To
LT. COL. CHARTERIS
M.O. 4
(w.o.)
Mr. W. RENNIE
(Min of 7 ft.)

from
Mr. CABLE

Copy to:
Mr. Higham C.O.

Sept 24
1948

I am sending copies
of this despatch

I enclose a copy of
a letter from H.M. General
Marseilles about the departure
of the 3 transports carrying
the "President Warfield" Jews.
from Port de Boue

2. You may care to
consider the suggestions made
in para. 3 of this letter,
which appear to me to be
very sensible.

[Signature]
3/9

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FO 371/61825

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25

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.

5th September, 1947.

(E 8076/48/C)
CONFIDENTIAL

I enclose a copy of a letter from His Majesty's Consul-General Marseilles about the departure from Port de Bouc of the three transports carrying the "President Warfield's" Jews.

2. You may care to consider the suggestions made in paragraph 3 of this letter, which appear to me to be very sensible.

(J. E. Cable)

Lieutenant Colonel
M. M. C. Charteris, O.B.E.,
M.O.4. War Office.
W. Rennie, Esq.,
Ministry of Transport.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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473

E

E 8094

1947

PALESTINE

3 SEP

26

Registry Number

E 8094/48/31

FROM

R. G. Montgomery
Frankfurt

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

260
26 Aug
3 Sept

Jewish Activities in Germany
After Frankfurt despatch 222 (E 7181/48/SW.S.)
Enclosed number of telegrams sent by
various groups of Jewish O.P.'s in the
Zone protesting against recent events in
Palestine.

Last Paper.

8076

References.

(Minutes.)

copy to G.O.
German (Pol.) Dept. ✓ J.A.M.
8/9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/10
Rept 8 et.

(Action completed.)

J.M. 11/9

(Index.)

11/9

Next Paper.

8123

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Reference: FO 371/61825

PAL/CEN/1

E

27

British Consulate General,
Frankfurt-am-Main.

E 8094

No. 260

26th August, 1947.

3 SEP 1947

Sir,

E With reference to my despatch No. 222 of the 30th July and earlier correspondence regarding Jewish anti-British activities in this district, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of a number of telegrams addressed to the Consulate by various groups of Jewish Displaced Persons in the Zone protesting against recent events in Palestine.

2. Copies of this despatch and enclosures are being forwarded to Political Division, Berlin, and to H.M. Consul, Munich.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,



H.M. Consul General.

H.M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

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Enclosure to W. Despatch No. 260
of 26.8.47

28

Copies of Telegrams received by H. V. Consul
General at Frankfurt from Jewish
organisations in the U.S. Zone.

No. 1

(Received on 19.8.47)

WIR BITTEN IHN IHRE TÄTIGKEIT WÄHREND DER VERMITTLUNG
ZWISCHEN DER JÜDISCHEN JÜGENDORGANISATION IN
PALÄSTINA UND DER BRITISCHEN ARABISCHEN DELEGATION
ZUR VERMITTLUNG DER ZWISCHEN DEN JÜDISCHEN
ARABISCHEN UNTERSTÜTZUNG UND FÖRDERUNG
KRÄFTIGER.

(translation).

We request your intervention regarding the release
of Zionist leaders and workers in Palestine and to
transmit our protest against declaration to Betar
of Zionist Jewish Organisations being illegal.
Population and Committee Kreilung.

(this telegram originated in the Munich
area).

No. 2

(Received on 20.8.47)

The general assembly meeting in our Center is
delivering its protest against the cancelling
of the Jewish Youth Organisation Betar by
the British Government. We kindly forward
our request to submit our protest towards to
the authorities of the British Government in
London. In name of the assembly. Werner
Reiser, Weidenheim, Bayer. Ld.

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No. 3

(Received on 22.8.47)
 A mass assembly of the Camp inhabitants of
 Donaubastion Ulm expresses its excitement
 about the action taken by the British
 Government in connection with the dissolution
 of the legal Zionist Youth organisation in
 Palestine. For the camp inhabitants Aron
 Schechter.

No. 4

(Received on 22.8.47)
 During the graet national meeting in Windsheim
 of August 17th the people expressed their
 forcible protest an sediton against the illegal
 treatmend of your government which forbided the
 right to exist of the legal Zioniste youth motion
 Betar in Palestine and carried out numberless
 arrests on Zioniste individuallies there. We ask
 you to forward our telegram to your central
 government in London.
 National meeting in Windsheim.

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Reference:-

FO 371/61825

Palestine

E 8123 / G

- 3 SEP 1947

30

EASTERN

1947

429

31

E 8123 / 48 / 9

Jewish illegal immigration

M. G. G. G.

Mr. Duff Cooper
Paris

852

Dated 2 Sept
Received 3 Sept.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

E 8076

Fable
(J.E. CABLE)
4/9

References.

E 7766 / 48 / 9

I spoke to Mr Fellows about this.
and referred him to Paris tel.
No. 833

(Print.)

News Dept.

13 Sept. 4

(How disposed of.)

8) 11 P 4 290

Substance given to diplomatic
correspondents - (Blow -
(Fellows) 4/9

J. J.
8/9

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25 9/9

W. J.

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E

E8123

31

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Duff Cooper
No. 852

D. 10.27 a.m. 2nd September 1947
R. 10.35 a.m. 2nd September 1947.

2nd September 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem

V V V

IMPORTANT.

CONFIDENTIAL.

E/S

Your telegram No. 1689 Saving and my telegram
No. 833.

Jewish illegal immigration.

From publicity point of view it might be useful to make something of the suggestion I put to M. Jarblum that the Jews should agree to disembark if we undertook that they should not be penalised but should be allowed to take their turn with others in applying for permission to immigrate. The refusal of this offer shows that these Jews are not content with equality but are demanding privileges which can only be granted at the expense of their fellows who are patiently waiting and are as desperately anxious to get to Palestine as they are themselves.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 42.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

3 SEP 1947

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

Palestine
EASTERN

E8131 /G
- 3 SEP 1947

430

31

E8131 /48/9

President wafield news 32

Mr Duff Cooper
Paris
8/5/4
dated 2 Sept
Received 3 Sept.

Last Paper.

E8123

(Minutes.)

References.

E8051/48/9.

Fable
(J.E. CABLE)
4/9

Western Dept. 4/8/4

35 Sept
Sept. 4

circulated as in margin

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P ✓ 4 Sept

R.G.
4/9

(Action completed.)

25/9/47

(Index.)

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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E
E8131
Green
33

Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Duff Cooper. D. 5.25 p.m. 2nd September 1947.
No. 854.

2nd September 1947. R. 7.40 p.m. 2nd September 1947.

Repeated to: Washington,
Jerusalem.

W:W:W:W:W

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to both Washington and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.186 and 43 respectively.

Your telegram No.1967.

Jewish illegal immigration.

M. Bousquet not being available, we sounded his assistant who immediately expressed the view that the operation you propose would be a "sword-thrust in the water" (un coup depee dans l'eau). He also thought that it would be difficult to improvise at short notice, organisation required to receive immigrants if they did decide to land. His feeling was that as the commission set up in accordance with the decision of the Council of Ministers (see my telegram No.843) was already at work studying means of receiving the immigrants in another part of France later in September, it would be better to let things take their course.

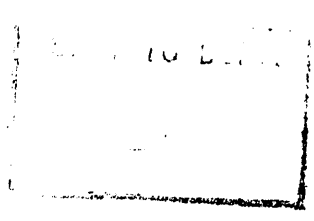
2. He undertook to take up the question with M. Bousquet and the Prime Minister's office as soon as possible and to let us have definite view tomorrow 3rd September. He promised to set nothing in motion without consulting us further.

3. We are keeping United States Embassy informed. They sounded Secretary-General today in the course of other business. M. Chauvel undertook to consider the matter but did not commit himself.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem.]

[Repeated to Washington.]

3 SEP 1947



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E8132/48/31

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1947

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E

E 8140

SEP 1947

34

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E8140/48/31

FROM Mr Macrae
Ciudad Trujillo

No. 67

Dated 26.8.47.
Received in Registry 4.9.47.

Jewish Immigration into the Dominican Republic
President Trujillo has sent one of his private secretaries with a tel. received from the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. The tel. is no 6 of August 24th. In this tel. they invite the attention of the President of the Dominican Republic to the British action in deporting 4,400 Jewish Refugees to Germany. He is asked to join in with other Govts. of the United Nations in act of intervention against Great Britain. The President conveyed his assurance that their sympathies were entirely with H.M.G.

Last Paper

E8132

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

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(Action completed)

2/8.0. 10/9

(Index)

2/8.0. 10/9

Next Paper

E8141

(Minutes.)

N.A. Dyer 10/8/47
by V.O.

N.B. 4/9

Trujillo is probably thinking about
the future of his legation in London.

W. Jackson

8/9
10/9

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E 8140

E 35

BRITISH LEGATION,
CIUDAD TRUJILLO,
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

No. 67.

26th August, 1947.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that President Trujillo has just sent to me one of his private secretaries to show me a telegram received from the Jewish agency in Jerusalem. The telegram is No. 6 of August 24th.

2. In this telegram the Jewish agency "invite the attention of His Excellency the President of the Dominican Republic to the British action in deporting 4,400 Jewish refugees to Germany, from which country most of them had fled." The telegram states that the entire civilised world joins the Jewish people in horror at this vindictive action which is illegal, as the British are obliged under international law to facilitate Jewish immigration into Palestine.

3. The President is begged to join with other Governments of the United Nations in an act of intervention against Great Britain.

4. The President wished me to see this for my information, and conveyed his assurance that in this matter his sympathies were entirely with His Majesty's Government.

I have the honour to be
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

John Macrae

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

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1947

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E 8164

PALESTINE

SEP 1 36

Registry Number E8164/48/31

FROM Comdr. Evershed (Cabinet Office) to Mr Beith

No. 6/9/26

Dated 3.9.47.

Received in Registry 4.9.47.

S.S. "President Warfield"

As soon as the President Warfield incident is over it will be necessary to decide on future policy with regard to refoulement. Encloses a draft memorandum which might be circulated as a basis for discussion. Request comments on this draft, if the F.C. consider that such a draft will help. Copied to Hignam, Robertson and Maunsell.

Last Paper

E 8155

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

soft. bonds cancelled
(enc) Cab Off.
from Mr Beith
Sept 15
Comdr. Hignam P.O.
Maunsell, Oldbury
Robertson, 211.
Sept 16.

(Action completed)

GC/M 19/9

(Index)

24/9/48

Next Paper

E 8170 G

(Minutes.)

I can not see how acceptance of the principle of refoulement can be reconciled with the proposal to withdraw one of the large transports. If we intend to adopt a refoulement policy, it will be important to carry it out consistently. ~~We can surely not accept~~ If, as expected, the capacity of the "PADUCAH" is 2000, refoulement of her passengers would require two of the large ships and thus leave none available for any arriving on the "NORTHLANDS". This is, of course, a purely hypothetical case since, if they get there at all, both ships are likely to reach Palestine before the transports return from Germany. It is, however, a fairly typical case.

I think it should be made clear that refoulement, if adopted, must be energetically and whole-heartedly pursued and will require the use of four

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our maximum resources.

37

Huble
(J.E. CABLE)
4/9

As Commander Evershed says, the Official Committee will shortly have to consider what our future policy on refoulement should be. His summary of the arguments pro and con this policy is fairly accurate, though I think that he is wrong under 2 (b) in suggesting that we should not attach too much importance to the effect of the policy in discouraging the organizers of the traffic. I think the effect is very great.

I shall undoubtedly be asked by the Committee what the Foreign Office view is on the desirability of carrying on the present policy in pressing countries to receive back illegal immigrants who have sailed from their shores. The Committee will particularly want to consider how far our Palestine policy makes it necessary for us to legislate for continued measures against illegal immigration, (see Commander Evershed's manuscript P.S.) On this latter point, I take it that we must assume that there is quite a possibility of the United Nations Assembly failing to reach a definite decision and to make definite arrangements for taking the responsibility of administration off our shoulders, in such a way that we are left for a period of several months at least to continue trying to hold the balance in Palestine. This presumably means that we must be prepared to stick to the present Jewish immigration quota or something of the same order and to continue our measures against illegal immigration.

In general: It should be in favour of continuing "refoulement" subject to the caveats stated in Sir O. Sargent's letter in E7701/48/G
Mr Bealey first

J. G. S. Beith

(J. G. S. Beith).
10th September, 1947.

I agree with Mr. Beith, and we can draft accordingly to Mr. Evershed

I am doubtful about the last sentence of paragraph 11 in the enclosure. Also about the words "in this country" at the beginning of paragraph 16. I understood that the detention of illegal immigrants here was ruled out on legal grounds. Should we not face the

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Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Minutes.

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the C.O. with the proposition that
they must provide the guarantee
against a repetition of recent events?

H.B. 11/9

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E 8164

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enter 39
Som

SEP 1

Cabinet Office,
Great George Street,
S.W.1.

Ref: 6/9/26

3rd September, 1947.

Dear Beith

I think it is the general opinion of the Committee that as soon as we are shot of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD incident it will be necessary to decide on future policy with regard to refoulement. As there are many aspects to this question I thought of suggesting to Martin that he should circulate a memorandum on the subject as a basis for discussion. I have not spoken to him yet about it, but I have roughed out a draft memorandum, a copy of which I enclose. I would emphasise that this draft, in its present state, is purely my own effort, and the various opinions expressed in it may be very different from the official views of the Ministries concerned.

If you think a memorandum on these lines may help the Committee would you let me have your comments on the present draft. As the memorandum is intended only as a basis for discussion I suggest it is not essential for it to be perfect at this stage, as long as the views expressed are not so far out as to be misleading.

I am sending copies of this letter to Higham, Robertson and Maunsell.

Yours

Walter C. ...

J.G.S. Beith, Esq.,
Foreign Office.

OVER

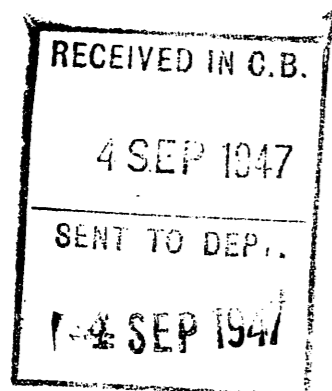
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P.S. Perhaps I should add that I am working on the assumption that the Committee will not wish to rely on the UNSCOP plan to provide an early solution to illegal immigration; but this assumption may well be wrong.



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Registry
NoE 8164/48/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open

Draft. J.G.S.B.

Commander Evershed,
Cabinet Offices

From Mr. Beith

Copy to
Mr. Higham,
Colonial Office

Capt. Maunsell
Admiralty

Colonel T.A.
Robertson,
M.I.5.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Form 3148 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE
S.W.1.

41

SECRET

15 September, 1947.

by Dean Evershed

Thank you for your letter of September 3rd enclosing a draft memorandum setting forth the salient factors which we must take into account in considering our future policy on "refoulement"

2. We are in general agreement with the contents of your useful note but you may care to have the following comments on one or two ~~the individual~~ points ~~of both~~ :-

(a) I think the second paragraph of your Section 2 (b) tends to underestimate the value of "refoulement" as a deterrent of the traffic. I think it is a very strong deterrent, though it is clear that it is correspondingly difficult to carry through. Both the advantages and disadvantages are strong and evenly balanced. From the point of view of the Foreign Office in general it is a difficult and burdensome policy because it is almost certain to involve us in a serious dispute with the European country concerned. In the case of the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" it has also brought us great odium in the United States. Nevertheless, in view of the importance ~~that the Cabinet~~ attach to stopping illegal immigration *ed by all depts.* we have hitherto accepted the disadvantages entailed.

(b) /

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(b) We would not agree to the suggestions contained in the last sentence of your Section 11, which appears to be that we might try and practise a limited form of "refoulement" by sending back a proportion only of a given shipload. It seems to us that we must carry out the policy whole heartedly or not at all.

(c) The possibility mentioned in Section 16 that we might ~~take~~ ^{receive} people whom we had failed to return to their country of departure in this country

is surely ruled out on legal grounds.

In this connexion ~~on this point~~ I would ^{also} refer you to

the letter from Sargent to Lloyd of which I enclose a copy. If we decide to carry on with "refoulement" ~~and~~

~~seems to us quite clear that if a~~ ^{it seems clear that} future case goes wrong, the illegal immigrants will have to be accepted

in Colonial territory. ^{The destination} ~~to be settled in advance of "refoulement".~~ ^{would have} As regards the point you made in the

manuscript postscript of your letter I think our answer must be as follows. We must

assume that there is a ~~good~~ possibility of the United Nations Assembly failing to reach a definite decision ^{or to} ~~to~~ make definite

arrangements for taking the responsibility of administering Palestine off our shoulders, with the result that we ^{may well be} ~~are~~ left with ^{for a} a period of several months at least to

continue trying to hold the balance in Palestine. This presumably means that we

must be prepared ^{for the present} to stick to the present

Jewish immigration quota or something of the same order and to continue our measures against illegal immigration.

E 7701/48/19
letter of Sept. 2

I am sending copies of this letter to Higham, Robertson and Mansell.
J.B. Sept 11
Yours sincerely
John Beith

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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REFOULEMENT - FUTURE POLICY

Draft Memorandum

With the closing of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD incident and the impending return to the Levant of the three fitted transports I suggest that the Illegal Immigration Committee ought to consider what our future policy is to be with regard to refoulement of illegal immigrants. This memorandum, which contains some of the considerations affecting this matter, is circulated to the Committee as a basis for discussion.

REFOULEMENT - ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

Advantages.

2. The advantages to be gained from refoulement are as follows:-

- (a) By returning the immigrants to their country of origin we are saved the trouble of finding accommodation for them.

This is a very real and concrete advantage. The refoulement of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD's immigrants alone removed all danger in the foreseeable future of the camps in Cyprus overflowing. There is now clearly no need - at least for many months - even to consider the possibility of having to build new camps with all their attendant political disadvantages and practical difficulties.

- (b) By returning the immigrants to the country of origin we discourage the organisers of the traffic and the would-be immigrants themselves.

Perhaps not too much weight should be attached to this advantage, for the Zionists are not moved by logic, and we cannot therefore count on any of our measures having a logical effect on them.

On the other hand, there have been signs that the organisers have had difficulty in finding money for illegal immigration. If this is so, the fact that all the money spent on the PRESIDENT WARFIELD in the end profited them nothing is bound to have had a telling effect on their plans.

- (c) Refoulement to the country of embarkation is likely to make the Government concerned more cautious in allowing such embarkation to take place.

It will be recalled that the original intention was to effect refoulement to Italy rather than

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Reference: FO 371/61825

to France, and that the reason for this intention was that the Italian Government had expressed their inability to prevent clandestine embarkation.

Disadvantages

3. The chief disadvantages of refoulement are:-

- (a) It places a very considerable burden upon the Navy.

In the case of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD it has meant not only tying down three or four of H.M. ships to escort duties for nearly two months, but it also required the previous shadowing of the ship and the organisation of patrols off ports where she lay. Apart from the disruption of Naval programmes the expenditure of oil fuel on this operation has formed a very significant part of the total oil fuel allowance for the year to the Mediterranean fleet.

- (b) H.M. Government has incurred considerable odium over the PRESIDENT WARFIELD incident - especially in the United States.

On the other hand, it is not impossible that the resulting anti-British diatribes emanate from a vocal minority without greatly affecting the silent majority who perhaps recognise the rectitude of H.M. Government's actions in this matter and approve their determination.

REFOULEMENT - POLITICAL POSSIBILITIES

4. The political possibilities of refoulement in the future may conveniently be considered under three geographical headings - France, Italy and the Communist Balkan States.

France

5. The French have now made their attitude abundantly clear; by refusing to allow illegal immigrants to be forcibly disembarked at their ports, and by making it clear that the reception of returned immigrants by train from Germany could not be regarded as a precedent, they have made any question of future refoulement to France very difficult, if not impracticable.

6. On the other hand, the PRESIDENT WARFIELD incident has been an extremely embarrassing one for the French Government and it is hardly likely that they will allow the overt embarkation of a large number of immigrants with palpably false passports to occur again - at any rate not in cases where they have been warned by H.M. Government. After all that has happened, to do so would be a most unfriendly act and it is suggested therefore that for the time being no further consideration need be given to this.

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Italy

7. There are still some 40,000 Jews in D.P. camps in Italy - a number that, according to recent reports, is being steadily increased by filtration over the frontier from Austria. All these would-be immigrants are awaiting the chance to embark clandestinely for Palestine.

8. It is suggested that the weapon of refoulement may still be a very powerful deterrent to these people themselves, and a strong inducement to the Italian Government to take steps to see that they are not allowed to embark. The fact that the French Government expressed their willingness to accept PRESIDENT WARFIELD's immigrants back might well be a sufficient argument to enable us to persuade the Italian Government to accept the return of a shipload of immigrants; and it is no doubt not impossible that a forcible disembarkation might be accepted at an Italian port.

Communist Balkan States

9. As far as is known the political possibilities of refoulement to Communist controlled Balkan States have not yet been fully explored. The opinion has been expressed that it is by no means impossible that the States concerned would accept back any illegal immigrants who had embarked there.

10. On the other hand, the acceptance by a Communist State of the return of a number of illegal immigrants would presumably mean that the State concerned had strongly disapproved of the departure from their territory of the Jews concerned. It is open to question whether H.M. Government would be prepared to send back behind the Iron Curtain a large number of human beings, Jews or otherwise, of whose actions the Communist authorities were known to disapprove strongly.

PRACTICAL POSSIBILITIES

Transports

11. To effect refoulement will entail the retention in Palestine waters of long-distance transports. There have recently been strong indications that the organisers of the illegal immigration traffic were arranging to use big ships, with capacities of 7-8,000, in place of the small ships they have hitherto been using. If this were so the refoulement of one complete shipload would not be possible, even with the present transports. On the other hand, to implement the principle of refoulement, and to reduce the numbers of immigrants to be accommodated in Cyprus, it is not essential to return a complete shipload.

12. If this is accepted the Committee should perhaps consider whether it is essential to retain all three of the large fitted transports. These ships are all potential dollar earners, urgently required in normal trade at this time of crisis, and it cannot be gainsaid that until they were used for refoulement they had been lying idle for most of the summer.

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13. Furthermore the danger that big ships would be used for illegal immigration has recently receded somewhat, so that only a few comparatively small ships are now likely to arrive in Palestine within the next few weeks or months. It might perhaps be thought that the retention of two of the large fitted transports would be a reasonable provision for refoulement of immigrants in such ships, and for the refoulement of a portion of the immigrants that arrive in any big ship.

Royal Navy

yes

14. If the policy of refoulement is to be pursued it must be recognised that a number of warships will be constantly required for shadowing suspect ships and to escort returning transports etc. If this can be accepted it is suggested that the Committee might recommend to Ministers the provision of a special allowance of oil fuel in order that the Navy's other duties may not be embarrassed.

CONCLUSION

Detailed Arrangements

15. It is clear that in any future refoulement operations the details must be fully settled beforehand. We have seen that, quite apart from the question of accommodation, the immigrants cannot be taken in emergency to any British colony outside the Mediterranean since the present transports are not suitable for long ocean voyages. We cannot again send immigrants to Hamburg, nor can we accept the loss of prestige which would result if we took a shipload back to Cyprus after we had announced our intention to return them to the country of embarkation.

16. Unless therefore we are prepared to receive them in this country in emergency we must in future be sure that when once we have allowed it to become known that a shipload of immigrants is to be returned whence it came, no hitch can arise to prevent its being carried out.

17. It is concluded that the policy of refoulement is a most powerful weapon in the prevention of illegal immigration and that it should be used whenever possible. It may well be however that Italy, where there is a large number of would-be immigrants to Palestine, is the only country to which refoulement will be politically possible in future. Subject to the settlement of the practical details the aim should be to return to Italy any immigrants embarked in that country.

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Reference: FO 371/61825

OUT FILE

Foreign Office, S.W.1.

15th September, 1947.

(R 8164/48/31)

SECRET

My Dear Evershed

Thank you for your letter of 3rd September enclosing a draft memorandum setting forth the salient factors which we must take into account in considering our future policy on "refoulement".

2. We are in general agreement with the contents of your useful note but you may care to have the following comments on one or two points:-

- (a) I think the second paragraph of your Section 2 (b) tends to underestimate the value of "refoulement" as a deterrent of the traffic. I think it is a very strong deterrent, though it is clear that it is correspondingly difficult to carry through. Both the advantages and disadvantages are strong and evenly balanced. From the point of view of the Foreign Office in general it is a difficult and burdensome policy because it is almost certain to involve us in a serious dispute with the European country concerned. In the case of the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" it has also brought us great odium in the United States. Nevertheless, in view of the importance attached by all departments to stopping illegal immigration we have hitherto accepted the disadvantages entailed.
- (b) We would not agree to the suggestion contained in the last sentence of your Section 11, which appears to be that we might try and practise a limited form of "refoulement" by sending back a proportion

/only

Commander W. Evershed,
Cabinet Offices.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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48

only of a given shipload. It seems to us that we must carry out the policy whole heartedly or not at all.

- (c) The possibility mentioned in Section 16 that we might receive in this country people whom we had failed to return to their country of departure is surely ruled out on legal grounds. In this connexion I would also refer you to the letter from Sargent to Lloyd of which I enclose a copy. If we decide to carry on with "refoulement" and if a future case goes wrong, it seems clear that the illegal immigrants will have to be accepted in Colonial territory. The destination would have to be settled in advance of "refoulement".

3. As regards the point you made in the manuscript postscript of your letter I think our answer must be as follows. We must assume that there is a possibility of the United Nations Assembly failing to reach a definite decision or to make definite arrangements for taking the responsibility of administering Palestine off our shoulders, with the result that we may well be for a period of several months at least to continue trying to hold the balance in Palestine. This presumably means that we must be prepared for the present to stick to the present Jewish immigration quota or something of the same order and to continue our measures against illegal immigration.

I am sending copies of this letter to Higham, Robertson and Maunsell.

Yours sincerely
(J.G.S.) John Beith

(J.G.S. Beith)

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FO 371/61825

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1947

432

Palestine
EASTERN

E8170 / G

5 4 SEP 1947 49

E8170 / 48/C

French reception of President
to airfield news

Mr Ashley Clarke
Paris
863
Dated 4 Sept
Received 4 Sept.

Last Paper.

E8132

(Minutes.)

References.

E8131/48/C
E8051/48/C

Table
(T.E. CABLE)
5/9

(Print.)

It was too late when it started and
has only served to give the Zionist
propagandists an impression of weakness
on our part, which they have exploited
in their publicity. ? concur. Draft
tel.

J.S. Denis
Sept. 5

Tel - sent
JB Sept. 5

(How disposed of.)

8) 11P / 9 Sept
Tel) Paris 1996
5 Sept
Rptd w' ion 9150
Jerusalem
8) 11P. / 9 Sept

(Action completed.)

2/9

(Index.)

W.P.

Next Paper.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

E8170

4 SEP 1947

Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

50

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Ashley Clarke.

No. 863.

D. 12.47 p.m. 4th September 1947.

4th September 1947.

R. 12.45 p.m. 4th September 1947.

Repeated to: Washington and
Jerusalem.

W:W:W:W:W

MOST IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Foreign Office please repeat Important to
Washington and Immediate to Jerusalem as my
telegrams Nos. 191 and 44 respectively.

Mr. Duff Cooper's telegram No. 854.

Jewish illegal immigration.

M. Bousquet consulted Ministry of the
Interior about your proposal. Their reaction was
strongly hostile on the ground that it was not only
a waste of time and effort but would stimulate Jewish
bodies into renewed pressure on the French Government.

2. M. Bousquet said that if, nevertheless, you
wished to press your proposal, Ministry of Foreign
Affairs would do their best for us. But he feared that
only outcome would be to prejudice the smooth
execution of the plan to return immigrants via Germany
and to reduce such influence as the Ministry might
still have with the Ministry of the Interior in this
matter.

3. In the circumstances I strongly recommend that
we abandon this proposal. It would have to be
referred to the Prime Minister and as he is faced at
this moment with the possibility of governmental crisis,
we could not hope for speedy decision especially in
view of Ministry of Interior's reluctance.

4. I venture to draw your attention once more to
final paragraph of Mr. Duff Cooper's telegram No. 847.

[Repeated to Washington.]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial
Office for repetition to Jerusalem.]

We know

RECEIVED
4 SEP 1947

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry No. **E8170/48/4**

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

Paris

Telegram.

No. **1996**
(Date) **Sept 5th**

Repeat to
Washington ⁹¹⁵⁰
Jerusalem

En Clair.

~~Code.~~
~~Cipher.~~

Distribution :-

Sept. M. 2

Copies to :-

11P
- - -

51

F.O.,

6/9/1947

Despatched **11 15 P. M.**

IMPORTANT

Your tel. no. 863 [17 Sept. 4:
Jewish illegal immigration]

I agree

[Signature]
5/9

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Reference:-

FO 371/61825

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Green SA

E 8170/48/G

Confidential

En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS

No. 1996

D. 11.15 p.m. 6th September, 1947

5th September, 1947
Repeated to Washington No. 9150,
Jerusalem

u u u u

IMPORTANT

Your telegram No. 865 [of September 4th: Jewish
illegal immigration].

I agree.

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References: **FO 371/61825**

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E8188/48/31

E8192

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E 8205/48/31

E 8209

and closed until..... *1998*

*delete as necessary

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289

1947

E

PALESTINE

E 8211

53

Registry Number

E8211/48/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Lord Inverchapel
Washington

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

4864
14 Sept
6

Restoration of Jews in President Warfield
Report Paris (E 854/E8131/48/9) discusses
report in Chicago Sun and in PM of Sept 4
in which Frederick Kuhn states that the British
Govt. have reconsidered its decision to send
Jews to Idomberg and has ordered ships
back to the House. Further comments.

Last Paper.

8209.

(Minutes.)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

4. 9. 9. sent
sent on

(Action completed.)

9/2/49

(Index.)

24/7/48

Next Paper.

8216

32008 F.O.P.

Hubb
(TELETYPE)

6/9

This is the result of our weekend
act of grace to which I referred
on an earlier paper.

D. S. Davis
Sept. 6

R. J. V. 6/9

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Reference: FO 371/61825

E 8211

Seen 54

EN CLAIR

DEPARTMENTAL NO:2

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel
No:4864

D.10.15 p.m. 4th September 1947

4th September 1947

R.4.07 a.m. 5th September 1947

Repeated to Paris
Jerusalem

4444

Paris telegram No:854.

In a report from Paris appearing in the Chicago Sun and in P.M. of September 4th Frederick Kuh states that the British Government has reconsidered its decision to send Jews from the "President Warfield" to Hamburg and has ordered ships carrying them to put in at Le Havre in a new attempt to persuade them to disembark in France. Kuh says that Mr Duff Cooper delivered a note to the French Government on September 2nd asking the latter to allow Jews to land and remain in France and to send French officials on board to make one more appeal to them to do so.

French Government have he says agreed to the first request provided that disembarkation is voluntary. Second request was referred to the French Prime Minister who is expected to refuse.

2. Kuh adds that all informed diplomats in Paris attribute this new development to the outcry of world opinion and especially to "the strong anti-British response from the United States of America"

Foreign Office please pass to Paris as my telegram No:221.

[Repeated to Paris Saving].



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MS-2

E

E 8216

6 SEP 1 55

PALESTINE

Registry Number E8216/48/31
 FROM I. Higham
 No. E.O.
 Dated 16021/04/47
 Received in Registry } to Mr. Beley
 3 Sept
 6

Transfer of Jews ex President Warfield from Germany to France

Records point made by Sir A Cunningham, that if French, as result of American representations, were to accept immigrant en masse by overland route from Thuringia, it should be unnecessary to carry out screening.

Last Paper

8211

References

(Minutes.)

[Signature]
 RECEIVABLE
 6/7

German Refugee Dept. First

[Signature]
 Sept. 6

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Germany has now been instructed to complete screening in as short a time as possible, and to arrange for volunteers to be collected and transported to France with the minimum of delay.

The latest situation report from Kiel suggests that the Jews have quietened down since arriving at the Camps as one would expect them to, and we do not fear any serious incidents or friction in the Camps in the initial period of screening during which they are being segregated. No doubt most of them will be extremely weary after their voyage and experiences of the last month or two, and they may not be too anxious to move at once if they find conditions in the Camps are not as bad as propaganda had led them to expect.

In the timing of the operation to get the Jews to return to France, I think we must be guided very largely by the opinion of the authorities on the spot who should be in the best position to judge the psychological condition of the Jews in the Camps.

Eastern Department

[Signature]
 10th Sept.

I have had the CO this
 JB Sept. 11

(Action completed)

[Signature]
 11/9

(Index)

[Signature]
 28/9/55

Next Paper

8232

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 Reference: FO 371/61825



Colonial Office,
Church House,
Gt. Smith Street,
London, S.W.1.

Erms
56

76021/64/47

3rd September, 1947.

SECRET.

E 8218

Dear *Beeley*,

I am writing to put on record one of the points made by Sir Alan Cunningham during the discussion with Mr. Ivor Thomas last Saturday. You will recall that the High Commissioner suggested that if the French, as a result of American representations, were persuaded to accept the PRESIDENT WARFIELD immigrants en masse by overland route from Hamburg, it should be unnecessary to carry out any screening. The military authorities in Germany had estimated that screening might take as much as 14 days. There would clearly be much less risk of incidents and friction and much less opportunity for hostile propaganda if the period during which these people remained in Germany pending transfer to France could be cut to the very minimum. I should be glad to know in due course what the authorities in Germany think of this suggestion so that we can inform the High Commissioner.

I am sending a copy of this letter to J.C. Robertson.

Yours sincerely,

John Higham

(J.D. Higham)

H. *Beeley*, ESQ.

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E

E 8232

1947

PALESTINE

REP

57

Registry Number

E 8232/48/31

FROM

V.H. Bath

No.

414 Agricultural and Fisheries

Dated

Received in Registry

to Mr Reddaway 4 Sept 6

Appeal against I.M.G. decision to send Jews to Hamburg.

Enclose copy of letter from Mr Hillbeck addressed to Mr Bollick, asking that I.M.G. change their decision and send Jews to "President Woodfield" detention. Ask for suitable reply for Mr Bollick to send to Mr Hillbeck.

Last Paper

8216

(Minutes.)

? Standard reply

J. Bulbe (J.E. CABLE) 6/9

References

Yes: but it requires a draft cover enclosing the usual text JB Sept. 6

(Print)

(How disposed of)

off. V.H. Bath Agricultural and Fisheries from Mr Reddaway (cont) Sept 11th

I submit draft accordingly. Please see also E 7770.

J. Bulbe (J.E. CABLE) 8/9

return enc with Mr. Barnes comm. to V.H. Bath Sept 15th

Mr. Reddaway print

JB Sept. 9

(Action completed)

J. Bulbe 11/9

(Index)

28/4/48

Next Paper

8233

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Reference:

EO 371/61825

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48

further copy of
Rovce letter sent
to m'back

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Reference:

EO 371/61825

TEL: ...
WHITALL 3400

Enter 2000 file
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

55, WHITEHALL,

LONDON, S.W.1.

1. U.N. (Eco Soc.) Dept.

2. Mr Reddaway

4th September, 1947.

E 8232

Dear Reddaway,

I expect you will have ^{SLIP}received a number of letters like this one from one of Mr. Collick's constituents. Would you kindly let me have a suitable reply for Mr. Collick to send to Mr. Stillbeck?

Yours sincerely,

V.H. Bath

Private Secretary.

G.F.N. Reddaway, Esq., M.B.E.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

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FO 371/61825

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Copy
(E 8232/48/31)

60

Flat 4,
19 Palm Grove,
Birkenhead.

1st September, 1947.

Dear Mr. Collick,

It may seem a pity to bother you in a holiday period, but I am writing to you on the question of the Jews who are, on present plans, to be disembarked at Hamburg.

Cannot this be stopped, and the ships diverted elsewhere even at this late stage?

However difficult the problem is and there can be no easy solution of the Palestine question, humanity, plain common sense, decency, and - at lowest - the plain aim of NOT making bad into worse, all mean that HAMBURG in Germany, where the Jews suffered most and worst, should not be made their destination.

May I again ask you to do your best.

With best wishes.

(Sd) R. Stillbeck.

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Registry
No. E 8232/48/31 J.E.C.

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To
Mr. V.H. Bath
Ministry of Agriculture
& Fisheries
from
Mr. Reddaway ^{SFT}

I attach

Ms. Berlin
Sept. 8

+ 0 ✓

OUT FILE

10 or 61
11th Sept

Dear Mr. Bath,
In answer to your letter of the 4th September, in which you asked for a suitable reply for Mr. Collich to send to Mr. Stillbeck's letter protesting against H.M.G.'s decision to send the 4500 Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield" to Germany, ~~against your own belief~~ the text of this letter which ~~has~~ been sent in reply to similar communications.

Yours sincerely
F. Turner
for (G.F.N. Reddaway)

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62

2. Begins.

[Here insert text of text of
letter to Mr. Edelman in
7770]

~~Ends.~~

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63
OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

11th September, 1947.

(E 8232/48/31)

Dear Mr. Bath,

In answer to your letter of the 4th September, in which you asked for a suitable reply for Mr. Collick to send to Mr. Stillbeck's letter protesting against His Majesty's Government's decision to send the 4500 Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield" to Germany. I attach the text of a letter which has been sent in reply to similar communications.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) Joan F. Tubnet

for (G.F.H. Reddaway)

V.H. Bath, Esq.,
Ministry of Agriculture
and Fisheries.

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Reference:

FO

371

61825

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Palestine

E8233 / G

438 31

E8233/48/C

Illegal immigration: Draft note to French Govt.

R. Ashley Clarke
Paris
762
Dated 5 Sept
Received 6 Sept.

Last Paper
E8209

References
E8035/48/C

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Off. Paris no. 1209
Sept. 23.
Mr. Coenherd
Cabinet Officer
Mr. Higham
Mr. Selous, N.S.
(Passes)
Sept. 24.

(Action completed)

(Index)

2F27/a

W.H.

Next Paper

(Minutes)

I confirmed with Mr. Crossley that Paris Embassy have not yet received the French note referred to. It is understood that it will be in the lines of Paris tel 843.

I think it may be a little premature to express our appreciation at this stage. In any case we should surely not refer to the "President Warfield" by her Jewish name of "Exodus", as does the first paragraph of this draft.

The enclosed memorandum might be amended in one or two particular details. In para. 1, I think we should delete "water" and insert the words "supplies to requirements of crew" after "food". There seems no point in asking the French to take needlessly drastic steps. We might also insert a further para. 3, asking the French to deny clearance to ships without a pass of registry.

Pabel
(J.E. CABLE)
10/9

33744

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65

I agree, subject to clearance with the illegal immigration office. (which might be arranged at a working party or through Curo. Eversted direct).

Please draft to Paris

J.B. Sept. 15

I spoke to the Working Party about this. They approved the note and our suggested amendments in principle but pointed out that the detailed suggestions for detaining ships are based on U.K. regulations. French law may be different and the Embassy might be well advised to consult their legal adviser before delivering their note.

I submit draft despatch to

Paris.

J. Cable
(J.F. CABLE)

18/9

J.S. Denis
Sept. 18

J.A.S.

20.9

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IMMEDIATE & CONFIDENTIAL

6 SEP 1947

(72/-/47)

No. 762.

E8233

British Embassy,
6 SEP 1947
Paris

66

5th September 1947.

Sir,

With reference to my telegram No. 843 I have the honour to submit that in acknowledging this note the opportunity should be taken of reiterating the various measures which have already been suggested to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as means of embarrassing vessels suspected of engaging in the illicit traffic to Palestine.

2. I have the honour accordingly to enclose herein a draft note to the French Government on these lines and should be glad if your instructions as to whether it should be delivered.

I have the honour to be, with the
highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

Ashley Clarke

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

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4400 Wt. 48098/143 (2) 75m. 3/47 (51) F.&S.

Registry
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Draft. Note to M
Minister for F.A.
from
H.M.M.

67

Monsieur le Président,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's Note of to His Majesty's Ambassador, in which you were so good as to inform him of the French Government's decision, subject to two conditions, to permit the entry into France of immigrants from the Exodus wishing to come to this country. H.M.G. much appreciate this decision and the spirit of cooperation which has inspired it.

2. I note that a Commission is to be formed to arrange the technical implementation of this decision, and that the Commission is also to take the necessary steps to prevent further departures of clandestine immigrants to Palestine from France such as that of the President Warfield. H.M. Embassy will be glad to cooperate with this Commission as suggested in Your Excellency's note, in whatever way may seem appropriate.

3. In this connection I would suggest that the Commission would find of assistance the communications which have from time to time been sent by this Embassy to Your Excellency's Ministry, pointing out the steps that can be taken to embarrass vessels which are suspected of intending to participate in the illegal immigration traffic. For convenience of reference I attach a memorandum listing the more important of these measures, which Your Excellency will perhaps be good enough to bring to the attention of the Commission.

4. H.M.G. are anxious that most serious consideration be given to the means of embarrassing suspect shipping described in this memorandum among which I would particularly invite your
attention/

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

68

attention to compliance with the regulations regarding safety of life at sea, concerning which an undertaking was given in Your Excellency's Note of the 24th April 1947, and to the possibility of withholding bunkers from vessels attempting to sail illegally for Palestine. The M.F.A. has been urged on many occasions by this Embassy to arrange for bunkers to be denied to specific vessels of which the President Warfield, the Paducah and the Northlands are the latest examples. In each case it has been found impossible to give satisfaction to these representations in spite of the weight of evidence against each of these vessels. Clearly, without bunkers, no vessel could participate in the illegal traffic, and painful incidents such as that of the President Warfield would be avoided.

5. At the same time I think Your Excellency will agree that the President Warfield episode has shown to be of insufficient value the undertaking given in your note of 24th April last whereby the check on the validity of visas before exit visas are accorded is confined to visas presented on collective passports. Would-be illegal immigrants can surmount this obstacle only too easily by applying for visas on individual passports. I have the honour to request therefore that the arrangements made by the French authorities concerning visas on collective passports should be extended to cover visas on individual passports also.

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Registry
No:

Draft.

69

Some of the more important checks which can be applied legally and administratively to delay or prevent sailing of ships suspected of complicity in illegal immigration to Palestine

1. Delay in or denial of port services:
 - (a) bunkers
 - (b) water
 - (c) food
 - (d) pilotage
 - (e) tugs.
2. Insistence on production of necessary certificates, and careful examination to ensure that ships conform to the conditions specified in the certificates;
 - (a) Load-line certificate
 - (b) Safety of life at sea certificate (examine condition of hull, machinery or equipment, particularly life saving appliances, lights and means of making sound signals),
 - (c) Safety radio telegraphy certificates
 - (d) Passenger certificates.
3. Insistence on payment of light dues
4. Rigorous inspection by the Port Health Authorities
5. Refusal of customs clearance or insistence on proper declaration of the stores carried by the ship, and on compliance with import and export regulations
6. Denial of material required for repairs
7. Refusal of insurance until certain steps have been taken, e.g. place in dry dock for remeasurement.

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Registry E 8233/48/6
No. 118/6

OUT FILE

70
FOREIGN OFFICE
S.W.1.

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Restricted.
Open.

J.K.C.

+ 3 cop/se

September 23. 1947.

Draft. Despatch

Paris

no 1209.

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Copies to
Commander Evershed
Cabinet Offices
Mr. Higham,
Colonial Office
Mr. Sherr, *Sherr*
M.I.5.

(with copies of
reference)

Weston Sept. 19/9.
JB

JB Sept. 18

Sir,

In your despatch No. 762 of the 5th September, you suggested that a note should be addressed to the French Government, reiterating the various measures which you have already suggested to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a means of embarrassing vessels suspected of engaging in the transport of Jewish illegal immigrants to Palestine.

2. I agree that this is a suitable opportunity for reminding the French Government of the various measures open to them. I should, however, be glad if you would make two amendments to the draft note enclosed with your despatch. In the first place, it seems inappropriate to refer to the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" as the "EXODUS", a name subsequently given to this vessel by Zionist propagandists. Nor do I feel that the French Government's decision to allow those of her passengers who so desire to enter France, calls for any special expression of appreciation by His Majesty's Government. This decision is, after all, only a partial (and *probably in effective*) fulfilment of Monsieur's Bidault's original promise to me.

3. The memorandum which you propose to enclose with your note has been discussed with the competent Departments. This

memorandum/

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

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no doubt

memorandum is ~~presumably~~ based on Eastern Department's letter No E 6246/84/31 of the 21st July, which gave an account of the various measures which might be adopted in similar circumstances by the U.K. authorities.

Not all of these are necessarily applicable in France. On the other hand, French law may offer an opportunity to take action which would not be possible in the United Kingdom. You will remember ~~however,~~ ^{in this connexion}

that in my despatch No. 589 of the 10th May [Paragraph 5]. I pointed out the advisability of reinforcing such representations by drawing the attention of the French Authorities to any specific provisions which might exist in French law authorising

the control of departures of unseaworthy or overcrowded vessels. You ~~will~~ ^{may} also ~~remember~~ ^{have noted} the effect produced on the Danish authorities when H.M. ~~Ambassador~~ ^{British Representative} in

Copenhagen ~~refuted their protestations of impotence by reading aloud the relevant extracts from the Danish Merchant Shipping Act~~ ^{appropriate} [Eastern Department's letter No E 5956/48/31 of 16th July]. ~~I fully realise, of course, that the inadequate assistance rendered by the French Authorities in the past was due to the fundamentally unco-operative attitude of the French Government and not to any lack of information on the measures open to their authorities. It is, nevertheless, important to ensure that any course of action which you may suggest to the French Government is accurately described and supported, where necessary, by reference to French law and regulations. I shall be grateful,~~

in reply to suggestions that there were no powers under which the Danish Govt. could take action.

~~I fully realise, of course, that the inadequate assistance rendered by the French Authorities in the past was due to the fundamentally unco-operative attitude of the French Government and not to any lack of information on the measures open to their authorities. It is, nevertheless, important to ensure that any course of action which you may suggest to the French Government is accurately described and supported, where necessary, by reference to French law and regulations. I shall be grateful,~~

~~the refore/~~

the refore/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference: FO 371/61825

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

that it might be well for you to 72
 therefore, ~~if you will~~ consult your legal
 Advisers with a view to incorporating ^{in your memorandum} any ^{points} ~~such~~
~~of French law~~ references which may appear applicable, ~~in~~
~~your memorandum~~. In addition, you may wish
 to consider the inclusion of some reference
 to the possibility of preventing illegal
 immigrant ships from recruiting crews in French
 ports.

I am, etc.
 HARRIS
 20.9

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 Reference: FO 371/61825

OUT FILE.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.

No. 1209.

23rd September, 1947.

(E 8233/48/G)
CONFIDENTIAL

Sir,

In your despatch No. 762 of the 5th September you suggested that a note should be addressed to the French Government, reiterating the various measures which you have already suggested to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a means of embarrassing vessels suspected of engaging in the transport of Jewish illegal immigrants to Palestine.

2. I agree that this is a suitable opportunity for reminding the French Government of the various measures open to them. I should, however, be glad if you would make two amendments to the draft note enclosed with your despatch. In the first place, it seems inappropriate to refer to the "President Warfield" as the "Exodus", a name subsequently given to this vessel by Zionist propagandists. Nor do I feel that the French Government's decision to allow those of her passengers who so desire to enter France calls for any special expression of appreciation by His Majesty's Government. This decision is, after all, only a partial (and probably ineffective) fulfilment of Monsieur Bidault's original promise to me.

3. The memorandum which you propose to enclose with your note has been discussed with the competent departments. This memorandum is no doubt based on Eastern Department's letter No. E 6246/84/31 of the 21st July, which gave an account of the various measures which might be adopted in similar circumstances by the United Kingdom authorities. Not all of these are necessarily applicable in France. On the other hand, French law may offer an opportunity to take action which would not be possible in the United Kingdom. You will remember in this connexion that in my despatch No. 589 of the 10th May (paragraph 5) I pointed out the advisability of reinforcing such representations by drawing the attention of the French authorities to any specific provisions which might exist in French law authorising the control of departures of unseaworthy or overcrowded vessels. You may also have noted the effect produced on the Danish authorities when His Majesty's Representative at Copenhagen read aloud appropriate extracts from the Danish Merchant Shipping Act in reply to suggestions that there were no powers under which the Danish Government could take action (Eastern Department's letter No. E 5956/48/31 of the 16th July). I suggest therefore that it might be well for you to consult your Legal Advisers with a view to incorporating in your memorandum any points of French law which may appear applicable. In addition, you may wish to consider the inclusion of some reference to the possibility of preventing illegal immigrant ships from recruiting crews in French ports.

I am, with great truth,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(For the Secretary of State)

B.A.B. Burrows.

H. Ashley Clarke, Esq., C.M.G.,
etc., etc., etc.

73

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

293

74

1947

E

E 8237

PALESTINE

8 SEP 1947

Registry Number E8237/48/31
 FROM W Manning
 No. Consul Gen
 Dated Tunis
 Received in Registry 2013/558/65-
 8 Aug

Jewish Visa Applications.

Enclosed copies of two letters shown to
 consulate by local Jew M. GOZMAN.
 Both addressees state they have made no
 application to go to Canada, and do not
 understand the letters. Consulate suspect
 illegal propaganda activities.

Last Paper
8233

References

10/9

(Print)

(How disposed of)

of Schen.
 M.I.5.
 Dept. 11d.

(Minutes.)

copy to: M.I.5 (Mr. Schen)

This looks like HOKUM to me!

[Signature]
9/9

Commonwealth Liaison Dept.

of Consulate General letter
 as the last para suggests, they
 are probably intended to keep us busy. I do not,
 if you agree, see much point in bringing in
 the connections at this stage.

M. Stewart 19/9.

[Signature]
16/9

(Action completed)

[Signature]
4 Oct 16/9

(Indexed)

[Signature]
20/11/48

Next Paper

8267

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 Reference: FO 371/61825

E
E 8237

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL

TUNIS

5th August, 1947 75

2013/558/65

Dear Department,

We enclose herewith
copies of 2 letters, the originals of which
have been shown to us by a local Jew, Monsieur
Gozlan.

Both the addressees state that they
have made no application to go to Canada (or
anywhere else) and do not understand the
contents of the letters.

In view of the fact that the letters
are signed " P.le Vice Consul R.W.Bennett "
we have shown the originals to the Residency
General. There is no Canadian representative
in Tunis, neither is there any Consulate at
the address given.

These copies are being sent forward
as there is a slight chance of their being
coded instructions regarding illegal
immigration to Palestine which have gone
astray. On the other hand they may now
possibly reach the destination which their
author, who may be instructed to keep us busy,
intended them to reach.

Yours ever,

Tunis Consulate General

Western Department,
Foreign Office

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

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Tunis le 31 Juillet 1947

Monsieur Yon Lardoché Roger

GOZLAN

22 rue du Caire, Tunis

Immigration: SKOOKUM du Nord(C.B.O.)

Monsieur,

Vous êtes prié comme suite à votre demande d'immigration au SKOOKUM du Nord de vous présenter le lundi 26 Juillet 1947 au Consulat 27 rue de Turquie entre 10 et 11 heures du matin

Vous serez questionné sur toutes les dispositions que vous désirerez prendre aussitôt votre arrivée dans la contrée de BERG OKHAND (Canada du Nord)

Vous êtes prié de porter vos pièces d'identité certificat de bonne vie et moeurs une attestation d'une personne garantissant votre conduite dans notre Pays

Votre non présence Samedi 28 Juillet 1947 correspondrait à l'annulation de votre lettre du mardi 11 Mars 1947 étant bien entendu qu'aucune personne ne pourrait en aucun cas prendre place à votre départ pour BERG OKHAND qui aura lieu le 2 Aout 1947

Veillez agréer Monsieur l'expression de mes salutations distinguées

P.le Vice Consul R.W.BENNETT

R.W.BENNETT

Reçu le 11 Mars 1947

Répondu le 23.7.47

Sous le n°Class A.C.B.O.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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Tunis le 31 Juillet 1947

77

IMMIGRATION: SKOOKUM

Monsieur Paul David NACCACHE

5 rue Sidi Sifiane

Tunis

Monsieur

Nous avons le regret de vous informer que par suite des circonstances indépendantes de notre volonté le départ du S/S PAMARA sera reporté au 12 Aout 1946

Le S/S PAMARA devra en effet passer par Marseille prendre les Immigrants Français se rendant au SKOOKUM

Nous regrettons ce contre temps et nous vous prions d'agréer Monsieur l'expression de nos salutations distinguées

R.W.BENNETT

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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CONDITIONS GENERALES D IMMIGRATION

78

Les intéressés devront prendre note et signer les dites conditions en apposant au bas de la feuille à la main et à l'encre la notion: LU et APEROUVE

I.- Je m'engage à signer un contrat de trois ans(3ans) dans les conditions suivantes:

- 1- Traitement de 100\$ par mois
- 2- Rembourser le Gouvernement du SKOOKUM de la somme de 2000\$ qui sera le prix du terrain fourni par notre pays et ceci amortissable en trois ans, les récoltes seront acquises et payées par notre Gouvernement étant bien entendu que la nature du produit cultivé sera désigné par notre Chambre de Commerce
- 3.- Le SKOOKUM s'engage à me nourrir me loger et pourvoir à l'entretien de mes betes et employés gratuitement et ceci pendant deux ans sur trois
- 4.- Le Gouvernement accepte de fournir un visa de départ pour ma femme légitime (un mariage blanc est accepté si l'intéressée accepte à rester au moins une année au SKOOKUM)
- 5.- Un stage d'apprentissage de trois mois à NEW YORK City et un mois à Montréal sera nécessaire et sera payé par notre Consulat dans ces deux pays (U.S.A. & CANADA)
- 6.- Au bout des trois années de travail un voyage gratuit de deux mois trajet et durée du voyage non compris sera accordé à tout Immigrant (et sa femme légitime ou ayant passé au moins un an au SKOOKUM) ceci pour le pays et département désiré dans les pays suivants:
U.S.A. CANADA, MEXIQUE, BRESIL, ARGENTINE, CHILI, ANGLETERRE, FRANCE, BELGIQUE, EUROPE CENTRALE, ITALIE, AFRIQUE DU NORD & COLONIES FRANCAISES, AFRIQUE DU SUD, MADAGASCAR, AUSTRALIE, ILES DU PACIFIQUE, JAPON.

P.T.O.

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79

7. Toute personne renouvelant son contrat pour trois ans verra son congé, prolongé de quatre mois soit au total six mois

SIGNATURE

Si ces conditions vous agréent vous êtes prié de signer et apposer sous le mot signature à l'encre et à la main la notion LU & APPROUVE

Veillez agréer Monsieur nos salutations distinguées

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group *FO*

Class *371*

Piece *61825*

Following document(s) retained in the
Department of origin under Section 3 (4)
of the Public Records Act, 1958

E8267/48/31

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

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Palestine
EASTERN

E8268 / G
1947
80

440 31
E8268/48/9

Report of refugees sailing
from Danzig.

Mr Broad
Warsaw
1235

Dated 6 Sept
Received 8 Sept.

Last Paper.
E8267

(Minutes.)

How see E 8269

[Signature]
8/9

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11 P
Sept. 15.

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

25 1/3

[Signature]

Next Paper.

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

~~W~~ E
20 cp/se
Cypher/OTP.

WAR OFFICE.

12a
E8268
8 SEP 1947

81

FROM WARSAW TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Broad.
No. 1255.

D. 12.40 p.m. 6th September, 1947.

6th September, 1947.

R. 4.15 p.m. 6th September, 1947.

Following for the War Office for M.I.3. from British
Military Attaché Warsaw.

Top Secret.

Telegram MA.195. Subject volunteers for Greece.

Reference my telegram MA.189 of September 1st and
letter MA.85 of September 5th.

Report from Danzig now received states that no
confirmation of refugees sailing has yet been obtained
but that there is definite confirmation of some form of
recruiting in that area.

2. Naval Attaché considers if ship sailed it is
more than likely that it carried Jews for Palestine than
Peles for Greece.

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

Palestine
EASTERN

E8269/G

441
E8269/48/C

Possible embarkation of 82
Jewish illegal immigrants
~~on~~ from Gdansk.

Mr Broad
Warsaw
1237

Perhaps "on the way" is right

Dated 6 Sept
Received 8 Sept.

Last Paper.

E8268

References.

(Minutes.)

Please give I.I.P. distribution to this
and preceding telegram.

Northern Dept. *ESU*
Southern Dept. *10/10*
11/9

[Signature]
8/9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

[Initials] 16 Sep

We have now had a letter from
Mr Broad at Warsaw which is
being circulated to Southern and
S.L. Depts analyzing these rumours.
At first sight it appears as if
there may be something in the
International Code L for France theory.
No doubt we shall hear further
from Warsaw.
J Waterfield
18. IX.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

2F 13/9

left

Next Paper.

Eastern Dept. would be glad to see
the letter referred to.

Northern Dept. Noted

MW
23. IX.

[Signature]
(T.E. CABLE)
22/9

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Reference: **FO 371/61825**

83

1000

- 1. Case no 6111
- 2. Case no 876

24 Sep
22 Oct.

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Reference: **EO 371/61825**

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J. Opler

E8269/G
- 8 SEP 1947

Cypher/OTP

ADMIRALTY

FROM WARSAW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

843

Mr. Broad D. 7.10 a.m. 8th September 1947
No. 1237 R. 9.40 a.m. 8th September 1947

6th September 1947

Following for D.N.I. from the Naval Attaché Warsaw.

[Begins]

Top Secret.

Unconfirmed but persistent report that about 400 volunteers for the International Brigade in Greece sailed Gdynia about August 25rd. I consider possible she may have contained Jews for Palestine. Further confirmation unlikely but investigations continuing. Telegram MA 195 from Military Attaché Warsaw to War Office refers.

D.T.O. 061210.

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/LMB

815

112/117/47

29 SEP 1947

85

Minister E 2267

His Majesty's Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
CAIRO.

24th September 1947

Reference to previous communication:

Your Printed Despatch No. 607 of 15/9/47

Description of Enclosure.

Name, Date, etc.	Subject.
------------------	----------

From: H.M. Consul General, Alexandria.	Suspect Shipping.
--	-------------------

Date : 20th Sept. 1947.

Ref: Saving telegram No.13.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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COPY/LMB.

86

From : H.M. Consul General, Alexandria.

To : British Embassy, Cairo.

Saving Telegram No. 13 of 20th September, 1947.

SECRET.

Addressed to Cairo reference Weekly
Suspect Shipping List No.18 of September 3rd
1947, repeated to S.O.(I), Port Said.

SS "Las Tampas" arrived at Alexandria
on September 9th with one passenger, Dimos
A. Maratos, from Piraeus. Passenger disembarked
at Alexandria in transit for U.S.A.

It is stated that vessel will undergo
repairs at Alexandria.

Name of Agent, Messrs. Karnak, 28 Rue
Cherif Pasha, Alexandria.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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No. 876
(112/134/47) 27 OCT 1947 E

Green 87

His Majesty's Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
CAIRO.

ER269/C

22nd October 1947

E Green

Reference to previous communication:

Cairo P/D No. 815 of 24th September 1947

Description of Enclosure.

Name, Date, etc.	Subject.
FROM: Alexandria paper No. 32/10/1 of 17th October 1947.	Re: Repairs carried out on "Las Tamplas".

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-

FO 371/61825

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AS SENT UNDER ALEXANDRIA P/D NO. 32/10/1 of 17.10.47

To: S.O. (I) Port Said

From : H.B.M. Consul General, Alexandria

Date : October 17th 1947

Confidential.

Addressed to Port Said and repeated to
Cairo.

Reference my saving telegram No. 13 of
September 20th, 1947, addressed to the British
Embassy, Cairo, and repeated to Port Said.

As "Las Tamplas" is still at Alexandria
at Buoy No. 36 and it is said that minor repairs
are being carried out but exact information on
this point is difficult to obtain. Agents state
that vessel is expected to leave in a month's time.

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FO 371/61825

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1047

Palestine
EASTERN

E 8270 / G

8 SEP 1947

442 31

E8270 / 48/9

Illegal immigration: Return of
news to France

Mr. Ashley Clarke
Paris
8/9

Dated 4 Sept
Received 8 Sept.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

E8269

J. E. Cable
(J.E. CABLE)
8/9

References.

E8035 / 48/9

X *J. E. Cable* 29/9 X

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/11 P

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

28 30/9

W. H.

Next Paper.

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Case Eastern
FR 8070 / G
- 8 SEP 1947
90

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP CABINET DISTRIBUTION
FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Ashley Clarke D. 10.35 p.m. 7th September, 1947
No. 874
R. 10.45 p.m. 7th September, 1947
7th September, 1947

Repeated to Berlin,
Washington,
Jerusalem,
Lubbecke,

u u u u

MOST IMMEDIATE

Foreign Office please repeat Most Immediate to Lubbecke as my telegram No. 7 and Immediate to Berlin, Washington, and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 137, 195 and 45 respectively.

SECRET

Your telegram No. 4698 to Lubbecke.

Illegal immigration.

I advise most strongly against any attempt to return non-volunteers to France. In my view this might well wreck whole operation.

2. French Government have from the beginning insisted that they will only receive volunteers, and they have maintained this attitude throughout; there is no chance whatever of their eating their words.

3. I suggest also that, if non-volunteers are mixed up on the trains with volunteers, former would again influence the latter and no volunteers would be found on arrival in France. In any case if trains arrive in French territory with any non-volunteers on board the French are likely to make difficulties and there is even a risk that it would remove all possibility of securing adequate co-operation in carrying out this complicated operation.

4. Fullest publicity should be given in Germany to the fact that passengers have been and remain free to return to France and that facilities are being made available to enable them to do so at once.

5. I should be grateful if Lubbecke would inform me at earliest possible moment of progress of operation and in particular whether disembarkation is taking place voluntarily.

[Copies sent to Message Control, Norfolk House and to Telegraph Section C.R.O. Church House for repetition to Lubbecke and Jerusalem].

[Repeated to Berlin and Washington].

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1947

E

E 8275

9 SEP

PALESTINE

91

Registry Number E 8275/48/31
 FROM D P Batcher
 No. Ministry of Health
 Dated 4 Sept
 Received in Registry 4 Sept

Camps in Germany for 'Exodus' Refugees
 Encloses copy of letter which Mr A Brown received from Mr Silverman M.P re camps prepared in British zone of Germany for reception of 'Exodus' refugees.

Last Paper

8270

(Minutes.)

References

144

In P.P. D. Mackay & W. Hain 6/9
 ~ B. Brown - in Haines 5/9

J.B. Sept. 12

(Print)

In P.P. Richard Hanger, Home of Lords,
 3 Sept.

J.B. Sept. 24

(How disposed of)

~~Mr W. Haines
 (Lord Chancellor's Office)
 Sept 8~~

~~Mr W. Haines
 (M. Health)~~

~~Mr W. Haines
 Sept 8~~

~~Mr W. Brown (G.P.)
 Sept 8~~

~~Mr W. Mackay
 Min. without Portfolio
 office
 Sept 8~~

(Action completed)

PE 1024/9

(In)

28/9/47

Next Paper

E 8276

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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93

4th September, 1947.

Dear Sir,

I am desired by Mr. Bevan to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd September, about the camps in Germany for the Exodus refugees, and to say that it is receiving attention.

Yours faithfully,

Bevan
for Private Secretary.

S. Sydney Silverman, Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
S.W.1.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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94
Gwydyr House,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

6th September, 1947.

Eastern Dept
700 and reply
please 'OK' b/g.

My dear Pat,

I send you a copy of a letter which my Minister has received from Mr. Sidney Silverman, M.P.

Mr. Greenwood is out of town for the weekend and so I have not yet been able to show him the letter, but I know that he will be grateful to have your Department's comments.

Yours ever,

John
(J. Mackay.)

P.F. Kinna, Esq., M.B.E.,
Private Secretary to the
Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

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Reference:

FO 371/61825

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COPY

The House of Commons,
Westminster, S.W.1. 95

2nd September, 1947.

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Greenwood, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Westminster, S.W.1.

My dear Arthur,

The justification published to the world by a British Foreign Office spokesman at the time, for sending the Exodus refugees to Germany was that nowhere but in Germany could so large a number of refugees be adequately housed, accommodated and maintained at short notice. The camps where it is intended to house them have been inspected by reputable journalists who have reported as follows:-

There are two such camps. The first is Poppendorf. This is a camp located within the tremendous Poppendorf forest. It consists of 56 small Nissen huts, 35 x 16 feet, intended to accommodate 25 persons each. There are also 14 larger Nissen huts intended to accommodate 60 persons each. Further, there are 125 tents intended to accommodate in all 700 persons; the diameter of each tent is 8 feet. Inside the small Nissen huts there are 25 steel stretchers each equipped with a sack haphazardly filled with rough straw. Rat holes are visible in the floor and entering from the walls the outside of which have been freshly painted. Round the entire place barbed wire barricades are now under construction, with watch towers. This camp was formerly used for German refugees from the east but they stayed in it only a day or two and there were then no barbed wire or watch

/towers

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FO 371/61825

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96
towers.

For the whole of the camp there are five wash rooms of the most primitive type. Water has to be drawn from a common tank. There are no proper toilets but only specially constructed open latrines. Each person is to be given one blanket only.

The other camp is Am Stau. This is a little better, consisting of wooden barracks better fitted as places to live in than Poppendorf. Even here the metal beds seem on the point of collapse and the only mattresses are potato sacks filled with straw and grass. This camp is intended to hold 1,500 persons.

If these facts are correctly reported it would seem clear that the justification for sending these people to Germany quoted in the first paragraph of this letter is misconceived. So far from being better able to receive refugees than other places it is not fit to receive anyone at all.

If the policy of returning these people by force to Germany in these conditions is persisted in, the whole world will say that it was intended as a wanton act of retaliation. It is submitted with respect that the doctrine of collective Cabinet responsibility does not mean that it is the duty of every member of the Cabinet blindly to accept and defend whatever any other member does; it means that, knowing the fact every Cabinet member accepts personal and individual responsibility for what is done. I beg of you personally to enquire into the facts here set out and, if you find them correctly stated not to accept that responsibility. It is not even yet too late to change a policy that is making the British Foreign Office the object of ridicule throughout the world.

Very sincerely,

(sgd) S. Sydney Silverman

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BOARD OF TRADE,
MILLBANK,
S.W.1.

97

*Boston Dept
701 7th St
Boston 1947*

5th September, 1947

Dear Henniker,

Would you look at the attached copy of a letter which Mr. Silverman, M.P. has addressed to the President in a personal capacity. I should be grateful if you could let me have your comments and any suggestions for a reply to Mr. Silverman.

Yours sincerely,

Cliff Brown

J. P. E. Henniker, Esq., M.C.

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98

House of Commons,
Westminster, S.W.1.

3rd September, 1947.

The Rt.Hon. Sir Stafford Cripps, K.C.,M.P.,
Board of Trade,
S.W.1.

Dear Sir Stafford,

The justifications published to the world by our
British Foreign Office spokesman at the time, for sending
the Exodus refugees to Germany was that nowhere but in
Germany could so large a number of refugees be
adequately housed, accommodated and maintained at so
short notice. The camps where it is intended to house
them have now been inspected by reputable journalists
who have reported as follows:-

There are two such camps. The first is Poppendorf.
This is a camp located within the tremendous Poppendorf
forest. It consists of 56 small Nissen huts, 35 x 16
feet, intended to accommodate 25 persons each. There
are also larger Nissen huts intended to accommodate
60 persons each. Further, there are 125 tents intended
to accommodate in all 700 persons; the diameter of each
tent is 8 feet. Inside the small Nissen huts there are
25 steel stretchers each, equipped with a sack
haphazardly filled with rough straw. Rat holes
are visible in the floor and entering from the walls,
the outside of which have been freshly painted. Round
the entire place barbed wire barricades are now under
construction, with watch towers. This camp was formerly
used for German refugees from the East but they stayed
in it only a day or two and there were then no barbed
wire or watch towers.

For the whole camp there are five wash rooms of the
most primitive type. Water has to be drawn from a
common tank. There are no proper toilets but only
specially constructed open latrines. Each person is
to be given one blanket only.

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... ..

... ..

The other camp is at Am Stau. This is a little better, consisting of wooden barracks better fitted as places to live in than Poppendorf. Even here the metal beds seem on the point of collapse and the only mattresses are potato sacks filled with straw and grass. This camp is intended to hold 1,500 persons.

If these facts are correctly reported it would seem clear that the justification for sending these people to Germany quoted in the first paragraph of this letter is misconceived. So far from being better able to receive refugees than other places it is not fit to receive anyone at all.

If the policy of returning these people by force to Germany in these conditions is persisted in, the whole world will say that it was intended as a wanton act of retaliation. It is submitted, with respect, that the doctrine of collective Cabinet responsibility does not mean that it is the duty of every member of the Cabinet blindly to accept and defend whatever any other member does; it means that, knowing the facts, every Cabinet member accepts personal and individual responsibility for what is done. I beg of you personally to enquire into the facts here set out and, if you find them correctly stated, not to accept that responsibility. It is not even yet too late to change a policy that is making the British Foreign Office the object of ridicule throughout the world.

Yours very sincerely,

(sgd) SYDNEY SILVERMAN

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In any reply
please quote No.

100

HOUSE OF LORDS,
S.W.1

Eastern Dept. (TEL.: WHITEHALL 6240)

3rd September, 1947.
for swift reply.

PD.
4/5.

Dear Dixon,

I enclose herewith a letter to the Lord Chancellor from Mr. S. Sydney Silverman, M.P., concerning the two Camps in Germany in which it is proposed to house the "exodus refugees".

I would be very grateful if you would advise me as to what I should reply to Mr. Silverman on behalf of the Lord Chancellor?

Yours sincerely,

Richard Thompson

P.J. Dixon, Esq., C.M.G.

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10
4th September, 1947

Letter to
S. Silverman, Esq.,
M.P.,
122C Finchley Road,
London, N.W.3.

I am replying to your letter of the 3rd September about the conditions at the Reception Camp for the Jewish Refugees about to be disembarked in Germany, which you addressed to me and the other members of the Cabinet.

The accommodation at the Camp at Foppendorf is up to the average standard for a displaced persons Camp in the British Zone. That at Amstutz is above the average. In saying this, however, I should make it clear that this standard of accommodation applies to the basic standard up to which displaced persons Camps are initially equipped. The majority of displaced persons Camps in the Zone are more comfortable because they have been improved and adorned by the displaced persons own exertions during their period of habitation. The Camps at Foppendorf and Amstutz have never been used for permanent occupation, and, therefore, the accommodation has not been improved above the initial basic standard.

This standard includes beds and pallets for all inmates. Some beds which are not in good condition are being replaced and fresh straw has been used to fill the pallets. The ablutions installations are normal for a hatted Camp, and include running water. The water supply is, however, not sufficient and 20 water tanks are being installed as an additional measure.

Latrines supplied with screens and seats are up to the normal Camp scale.

9,000 blankets are being made available which will permit of 2 blankets being issued to each person. In addition there is in reserve a further supply against colder weather.

Foppendorf is capable of accommodating 3,000 persons in permanent buildings and Amstutz 1,500. When the hospital/...

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hospital cases have been removed all the remainder of the immigrants will therefore be accommodated in permanent buildings. The tents have been put up as a reserve to meet any possible emergency.

The scale of persons per room (or tent, if used) is normal for refugee camps and has been approved by the medical authorities.

In conclusion, I would emphasize that the British Zone of Germany was selected for the reception of these illegal immigrants as the only place where accommodation could be found at short notice. The scale is little different from that of the Army Camps in Cyprus into which previous ship loads have been received, and where no serious complaints have been made by the inmates as to the conditions. The Camps will, of course, be open to inspection by the Press of the World who will be free to draw their own conclusions.

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Registry
No.

Top Secret
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Open.

Draft.
Miss
Miss DE Batchelor

from Mr King

Also: Mr. G.M.P. Brown
from Mr. Henke
+ Mr. D. Mackay
from Mr. King

Mr King
P.M. 2/9

J.S. Berlin
Sept. 8

X. add to letter
to Miss Batchelor

"Letter
to S's letter/w"

OUT FILE

8-9-47.

103

Miss X.
Dear Batchelor,

You sent me with
your letter of Sept. 4th a
~~copy of~~ letter addressed
to the Min. of Health by
Mr S. Silverman, M.P.,
about the camps prepared
in the British zone of
Germany for the Jewish
illegal immigrants from
the "President Warfield".

Mr Silverman has
circularised a number
of Ministers on this
subject

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Subject and the Prime
 Minister has asked for
 a draft reply to be
 submitted to him, which
 will, I understand,
~~constitute~~ serve
 as a reply to Mr
 Silverman on behalf
 of all Ministers.

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OUT FILE

105

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

8th September, 1947.

E 8275/48/31

Dear Miss Batchelor,

You sent me with your letter of September 4th a letter addressed to the Minister of Health by Mr. S. Silverman, M.P., about the camps prepared in the British Zone of Germany for the Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield".

Mr. Silverman has circularised a number of Ministers on this subject and the Prime Minister has asked for a draft reply to be submitted to him, which will, I understand, serve as a reply to Mr. Silverman on behalf of all Ministers. I return Mr. Silverman's letter herewith.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) *[Signature]*

Miss D.E. Batchelor,
Ministry of Health.

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.2.

5th September, 1937.

R.8275/48/31

Dear Mackay,

You sent me with your letter of the 5th September a copy of a letter addressed to your Minister by Mr. S. Silveanu, I.P., about the cases prepared in the British zone of Germany for the British Military and the "Pravda" Warfile.

Mr. Silveanu has circulated a number of Ministers on this subject and the Prime Minister has asked for a short reply to be submitted to him, which will, I understand, serve as a reply to Mr. Silveanu on behalf of all Ministers.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) J. P. E. C. HENNIKER

for P. Kianna.

P. Mackay, Esq.,
Minister without Portfolio's Office.

FO 30 11925

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

8th September, 1947.

2575/48/31

Dear Sir,

You sent me with your letter of September 24th a letter addressed to the Registrar of the Board of Trade by Mr. S. Silverman, M.P., about the cargo captured in the British zone of Germany for the Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield".

Mr. Silverman has circulated a letter of Ministers on this subject and the Prime Minister has asked for a draft reply to be submitted to him, which will, I understand, serve as a reply to Mr. Silverman on behalf of all Ministers.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) J. C. C. LENNIXER

G. H. P. Hume, Esq.,
Board of Trade.

FO 2575/48/31

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Open.

Draft.

^{E.K.}
Mr R. Thesiger
Ld Chancellor's
Office

from Mr Dixon

^{pk 4/9}
Mr Finna

We spoke and
agreed the
lines of this
reply

B.S. Baird
Sept 4.

pk
7/9

OUT FILE

8-9-47.

108

Dear Thesiger,

Please refer to your
letter of Sept. 3 enclosing
a letter addressed by Mr
Silverman M.P. to the
Ld Chancellor about the
camps being prepared
in the British Zone of
Germany for the Jewish
illegal immigrants from the
"President Warfield".

The Home Minister
has asked this Dept. to
prepare a draft reply to
an identical letter which
he

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he has received - I understand
that this will constitute
the substantive reply to
Mr Silverman and that all
the other Ministers whom
Mr Silverman has circularised
will be associated with
that reply.

I return Mr Silverman's
letter.

PD
8/9

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110
END.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

8th September, 1947.

8275/48/31

Dear Thesiger,

Please refer to your letter of September 3rd enclosing a letter addressed by Mr. Silverman, M.P. to the Lord Chancellor about the camps being prepared in the British Zone of Germany for the Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield".

The Prime Minister has asked this Department to prepare a draft reply to an identical letter which he has received. I understand that this will constitute the substantive reply to Mr. Silverman and that all the other Ministers whom Mr. Silverman has circularised will be associated with that reply.

I return Mr. Silverman's letter.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) P. J. DIXON

R.E.K. Thesiger, Esq.,
Lord Chancellor's Office.

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